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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DANGERS WILL STILL REMAIN IN NORTH COUNTRY WATERWAYS THROUGH THIS WEEK

Streams and rivers across the North Country continue to recede, BUT still remain WELL ABOVE normal levels, thus numerous hazards remain in local waterways. Summer-like warmth is forecast for this week and weekend, which may bring more people to these waterways.

Therefore, The National Weather Service as well as Public Safety officials in Vermont and New York want to remind residents and tourists of the potential DANGERS that still remain in recreational waterways.

- 1) Natural swimming holes (like Huntington Gorge) will continue to exhibit high flows and DANGEROUS currents. These recreational spots should be closely monitored or avoided all together.
- **2)** Higher than normal flows and fast currents will continue for several more days on streams and rivers. Please closely monitor conditions and if it looks "threatening or questionable", please AVOID altogether.
- 3) Swollen rivers have brought debris (large branches/trees) into Lake Champlain. Floating debris can bring dangers to all recreational water vehicles and swimmers alike. In addition, the lake level has risen from 96 feet to just over 98 feet during the past week. These higher lake levels may possibly affect docks and boat "clearance" under bridges. Please take the necessary precautions.
- **4)** Water temperatures for Lake Champlain and other bodies of water are in the 40s to lower 50s. Hypothermia issues can easily arise. http://www.weather.gov/btv/coldwater-awareness
- **5)** Although not a waterway...hiking trails, especially in the mountains will be muddy and very treacherous for the next few days. Please check local hiking clubs, as well as the Green Mountain Club in Vermont (http://www.greenmountainclub.org/) and the Adirondack Mountain Club in New York (http://www.adk.org) for more information.

ALWAYS...Before and during ANY outdoor activity, please monitor the latest forecasts from NWS Burlington or other local weather sources.

Other links -

NWS Burlington - http://www.erh.noaa.gov/btv/

NWS Burlington Lake Champlain Forecast – http://www.erh.noaa.gov/btv/html/lake.php

NWS Burlington Mountain Forecast - http://www.erh.noaa.gov/btv/mountain/

National Safe Boating Week campaign - http://www.safeboatingcampaign.com/



